

REMARKSAmendments

In accordance with the Examiner's Amendment accompanying the Notice of Allowability, claims 2-6, 8-10, 12-23 and 27 have been amended to replace "A" by -The--.

Disclosure Under 37 CFR § 1.56

In fulfilling the duty of candor and good faith, the following documents are hereby disclosed to the Patent Office in accordance with 37 CFR § 1.56. It is not admitted that the information in the listed documents is material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR § 1.56(b). The Examiner is requested to consider the documents in the examination of this application.

Accompanying this statement are Forms PTO/SB/08A and PTO/SB/08B in duplicate on which the documents are listed. The Examiner is requested to return an initialed and signed copy of the forms once the documents have been considered.

The following documents were cited during the prosecution of U.S. Application No. 09-395,869 (attorney docket number MP1705-US1), now U.S. Patent No. 6,640,420, which is the parent of the present application. This application is also related to U.S. Patent No. 6,854,176 (Application No. 10/017,670, which was a continuation in part of the '420 application; MP1705-US2), Application No. 10/088,253 (now abandoned, which is the national stage of a counterpart of the '420 application and is a continuation-in-part of the '420 application; MP1705-US3), and Application No. 11/022,352 (a continuation of the '253 application and currently pending with Examiner Joselito Sasia Baisa in art unit 2832; MP1705-US5).

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U.S. Patent Application No. 09-060,278 (Chiang et al., filed April 14, 1998), now U.S. Patent No. 6,606,023.

The following additional documents, not listed above, were cited during the prosecution of Application No. 10-017,670, now U.S. Patent No. 6,854,176.

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Document Number	Publication Date	Name of Patentee or Applicant
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*Incorrectly listed on U.S. 6,854,176 as 2001-0000685 due to error on 1449 submitted by Applicants.

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NON-PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

AUTHOR, Title of Article, Title of Item, Date, Pages, Volume-Issue No., Publisher, City, Country	Translation
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The following additional documents, not listed above, have been cited during the prosecution of Application No. 11-022,352.

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Document Number	Publication Date	Name of Patentee or Applicant
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** Parent of the present application; not listed on the attached Form PTO/SB/08A.

*** CIP of the parent of the present application; filed after priority date of the present application and not listed on the attached Form PTO/SB/08A.

The following document, not listed above, was cited by the European Patent Office in the prosecution of European Application No. 00961888.5, which is a counterpart for the present application.

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Document Number	Publication Date	Name of Patentee or Applicant
US-5,493,266	02-20-1996	Sasaki et al.

Copies of Documents

In accordance with 37 CFR §1.98(d), copies of the documents submitted by Applicants during the prosecution of the parent application are not being submitted. In accordance with 37 CFR §1.98(a)(2), copies of each U.S. patent and each U.S. patent application publication cited by the Examiner during the prosecution of the parent application are not being sent.

In accordance with 37 CFR §1.98(a)(2), copies of the U.S. patents and patent publications listed above (which were not cited during the prosecution of the parent case) are not being submitted, although copies will be sent on request.

Copies of non-U.S. patents and publications are enclosed. Except as indicated above, all of the documents listed above are listed on the accompanying Forms PTO/SB/08A and PTO/SB/08B, and Applicants will readily supply copies if needed.

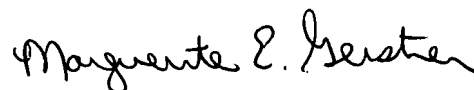
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Applicant believes that because this Disclosure Statement is being submitted with this RCE, no fee is due. If this is incorrect, please charge any necessary fee to Deposit Account No. 18-0560.

Conclusion

It is believed that this application is now in condition for allowance and such action at an early date is earnestly requested. If, however, there are any outstanding issues which can be usefully discussed by telephone, the Examiner is asked to call the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,



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